

In re application of: William L. Courtney
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Amendments to Specification

1. Please amend the paragraph beginning on Page 7, line 27 as follows:

Additionally, the simplest and lightest ballistic vest are made from KEVLAR brand fibers ~~Kevlar~~. In addition to the ~~Kevlar~~ KEVLAR brand fiber vest the individual might place solid armor plates on the front and/or back. Further complicating the airway protection of the heavily armored individual is the divergent range and location of armaments and gear. As the amount of buoyancy is increased simply to keep the soldier or officer afloat the shear size of the buoyant device becomes a source of stability in the face up as well as face down situation.

2. Please amend the paragraph beginning on Page 102, line 23 as follows:

Figure 71 shows a quick release variable volume bladder system 75d stowed behind the ~~Kevlar~~ KEVLAR brand fiber ballistics protection 77d, which can include a deflated inferior bladder 70d and deflated superior bladder 71d. The bladder container can be released when pressure is applied by detonation of cylinder 10d preferably by pulling lanyard 13d which activates the detonator. The expanding bladders can separate closure means 72d. Compressed gas can inflate fixed bladders 70d, 71d and mobile bladders 73d and 74d. In addition to the ~~Kevlar~~ KEVLAR brand fiber fabric armor, garment 27d can also contain thick rigid armor 76d of considerable mass. Inferior quick release loops can hold the bladder to the garment preferably by ripcord 83d. The superior quick release means 79d can be secured preferably by ripcord 82d. When the wearer pulls on loop 80d, rip cords 81d release the shoulder and sides freeing the front and back panels to fall away. Simultaneously rip cords 82d and 83d can release the abdominal bladder to become an autonomous PFD.

3. Please amend the paragraph beginning on Page 113, line 7 as follows:

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B3 77d Kevlar KEVLAR brand fiber panel protecting from pistol
shot

4. Please add the following paragraph after the paragraph
beginning on Page 106, line 22:

B4 In all collar embodiments the bottom surface portion of the
second end of the inflatable collar can ride along the top
surface portion of the first end of the inflatable collar until
the collar is properly positioned for a neck size of a user.